

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A passenger safety device for a vehicle comprising an airbag stored in a partially rolled up condition in an area of a roof rail of the vehicle, wherein the airbag is inflated in the case of an accident by a gas generator of the passenger safety device so that the airbag unfolds in the area between the head of the passenger and a lateral wall of the vehicle and protects the head of the passenger against colliding with the lateral wall.
2. The device of claim 1, wherein the airbag is rolled up in a prescribed winding direction to form an airbag roll arranged so that the side of the airbag configured to face the passenger after deployment of the airbag is faces outward in the roll and the side of the airbag configured to face the lateral wall after deployment of the airbag faces inward in the roll.
3. The device of claim 2, wherein the airbag is rolled up so that the airbag roll unwinds and deploys at a level in the vicinity of a head of a passenger.
4. The device of claim 2, wherein the winding direction of the airbag in the airbag roll is reversed at least once to thereby form of an inner first airbag roll which is rolled up in an outer second airbag roll of the opposite rolling direction.
5. The device of claim 4, wherein the inner airbag roll has the prescribed rolling direction and is arranged such that, when the airbag is inflated, it unrolls in an area at the level of the passenger's head.
6. The device of claim 4, wherein the outer airbag roll has the prescribed rolling direction and is arranged such that upon the inflation of the airbag it unrolls in an area at the level of the passenger's head.

7. The device of claim 2, wherein the airbag has an accordion pleating in at least a portion of the area of its envelope.
8. The device of claim 2, wherein a module sheath surrounds the airbag.
9. The device of claim 2, further comprising a gas distributing device located between the airbag and the gas generator to thereby ensure uniform distribution of gas into the airbag.
10. The device of claim 9, wherein the gas distributing device includes a fill tube or a fill hose.
11. The device of claim 3, wherein the lateral includes a side window of the vehicle.